



# **National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day**

***March 10, 2010***

## **United States**

- ⌘ In the US, a woman tests positive for HIV every 35 minutes. Nationally, 1 in 4 persons living with HIV infection is female.
- ⌘ From 2004 to 2007, the estimated number of newly diagnosed HIV cases increased 8% among females. In 2007, there were 10,977 new HIV diagnoses among females.
- ⌘ The most common transmission route for new HIV infections for women, is high-risk heterosexual contact (82.7%) followed by injection drug use (16.5%).
- ⌘ In 2007, the HIV/AIDS rate among female adults and adolescents was 12.9 (per 100,000).
- ⌘ Black/African-American women and other women of color are disproportionately affected by the HIV epidemic. Black/African-American women had the highest rate of new infection in 2007.

<b>Estimated Rates (per 100,000) of HIV Diagnoses, by Race/Ethnicity, Among Females, 2007</b>	
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>Rate (per 100,000)</b>
American Indian/Alaska Native	9.4
Asian	3.5
Black/African American	60.6
Hispanic/Latino	16
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	9
White	3.3

- ⌘ AIDS is the leading cause of death for Black/African-American women ages 25-34 years. Black/African-American women are over 21 times as likely to die from HIV as non-Hispanic white women.
- ⌘ Since the beginning of the HIV epidemic, the proportion of AIDS diagnoses among women has increased from 11% in 1990 to almost 26% in 2007.
- ⌘ At the end of 2007, approximately 147,000 women in the US were living with HIV infection. This is a 15% increase since 2004.
- ⌘ In 2007, over 3,700 deaths occurred among women with AIDS. Of those deaths, 39% were women infected through injection drug use and 59.5% were infected through high-risk heterosexual contact.
- ⌘ It is especially important for women of child-bearing age and pregnant women to receive HIV testing. In 2006, only 61% of pregnant women reported getting an HIV test.
- ⌘ Women face a variety of risk factors including substance use, biologic vulnerability, lack of recognition of a partner's status and most importantly, high-risk heterosexual behaviors.

*For more information call the AIDS/STD Infoline at 1-800-99-AIDS-9 (1-800-992-4379) or visit [www.HIV411.org](http://www.HIV411.org).*

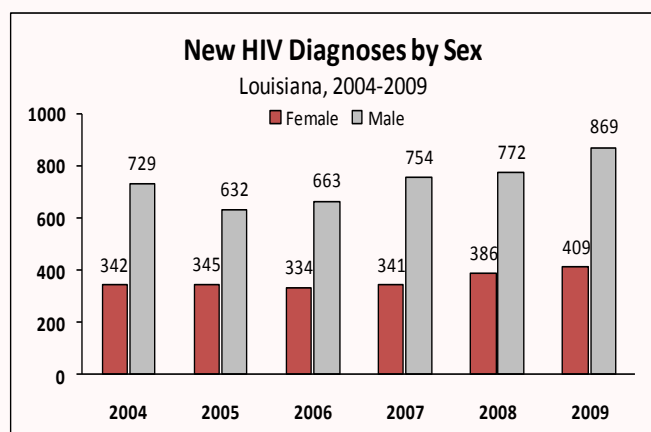


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## Louisiana

- ⌘ In 2009, 1,278 people in Louisiana were diagnosed with HIV; 409 (32%) were women.
- ⌘ Black/African-American women have consistently made up the largest proportion of new HIV diagnoses for Louisiana women. Of the 409 women diagnosed with HIV in 2009, 340 (82%) were black, 53 (13%) were white, and 13 (3%) were Hispanic.



- ⌘ Between 2004 and 2009, the proportion of new diagnoses that were female ranged between a low of 31.1% and a high of 35.3%.
- ⌘ In 2009, 10% of the new female diagnoses were in young women under the age of 21. Women, ages 15-44 years made up a total of 75% of new HIV diagnoses among females.

Women Living with HIV Infection in Louisiana by Public Health Region, 2009	
Statewide	5,179
New Orleans	1,621
Baton Rouge	1,589
Houma	200
Lafayette	327
Lake Charles	206
Alexandria	241
Shreveport	390
Monroe	347
Hammond/Slidell	258

- ⌘ In 2009, in Louisiana, 5,179 women were living with HIV, in all parishes, with the largest numbers in the New Orleans and Baton Rouge regions.
- ⌘ In 2008, 83% of the new HIV diagnoses for females were in women infected through high-risk heterosexual contact; 17% of the cases were in women infected through injection drug use.

- ⌘ In 2008, there were 386 new HIV diagnoses for women. At the time of HIV diagnosis, 20% of the women had a diagnosis of AIDS. Within 6 months of the HIV diagnosis, an additional 8% of the women were diagnosed with AIDS. Prevention measures must aim to increase the number of women being tested for HIV and get them to test earlier in their disease progression.
- ⌘ In 2008, 2 HIV exposed children were diagnosed with HIV. By the end of 2008, a total of 188 perinatally infected children lived in Louisiana. Increased HIV testing, targeting pregnant women, should help reduce the number of future perinatal infections.

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